

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a network server to discourage ~~inappropriate use that disproportionately depletes server resources such as~~ distribution of large media files, wherein the server is connected to a plurality of client devices, and configured to transfer information between selected ones of the client devices and a memory for static storage of information, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to transfer a file between the memory and one of the plurality of client devices;

removing a packet of information from the file after said receiving step, the packet of information comprising a defined number of information bits;

transferring the packet of information between the memory and the one of the plurality of client devices after said removing step;

pausing for a defined delay period after said transferring step wherein the defined delay period is determined based on characteristics of the file being transferred;

repeating said removing step, said transferring step, and said pausing step in order until all of the file has been transferred.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising increasing the defined delay period after each execution of said pausing step.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising setting the defined delay period to a selected predetermined value after each execution of said pausing step.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising initializing the defined delay period to a calculated value prior to said removing step.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising initializing the defined delay period to a selected predetermined value prior to said removing step.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising setting the defined delay period to a calculated value after each execution of said pausing step.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 6, further comprising determining the calculated value from ~~at least one input parameter selected from the file size, or file type~~ server load, network response time, and number of transfer requests from the client device within a defined prior period.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising setting the defined number of information bits in the packet of information to a calculated value after each execution of said pausing step.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising setting the defined number of information bits in the packet of information to a selected predetermined value after each execution of said pausing step.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising initializing the defined number of information bits in the packet of information prior to said removing step.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for discouraging inappropriate use of memory connected to a network where the use, such as distribution of large media files, disproportionately depletes server resources, the system comprising:

- a memory for static storage of information;
- a server connected to a plurality of client devices and to the memory, the server controlling access by the client devices to the memory; and
- an application on the server for transferring information between selected ones of the client devices and the memory, the application comprising instructions to perform the steps of:

- receiving a request to transfer a file between the memory and one of the plurality of client devices;

- removing a packet of information from the file after the receiving step, the packet of information comprising a defined number of information bits;

- transferring the packet of information between the memory and the one of the plurality of client devices after the removing step;

- pausing for a defined delay period after the transferring step where the defined delay period is determined based on characteristics of the file being transferred;

- repeating the removing step, the transferring step, and the pausing step in order until all of the file has been transferred.

12. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 11 θ , wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of increasing the defined delay period after each execution of the pausing step.

13. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 11 θ , wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of setting the defined delay period to a selected predetermined value after each execution of the pausing step.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 110, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of initializing the defined delay period to a calculated value prior to the removing step.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 110, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of initializing the defined delay period to a selected predetermined value prior to the removing step.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 110, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of setting the defined delay period to a calculated value after each execution of the pausing step.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 16, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of determining the calculated value from the file size or the file type ~~at least one input parameter selected from the file size, server load, network response time, and number of transfer requests from the client device within a defined prior period.~~

18. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 110, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of setting the defined number of information bits in the packet of information to a calculated value after each execution of the pausing step.

19. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 110, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of setting the defined number of information bits in the packet of information to a selected predetermined value after each execution of the pausing step.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 110, wherein the application further comprises instructions to perform the step of initializing the defined number of information bits in the packet of information prior to said removing step.